

THE LORD'S SUPPER

Adapted from a family talk by the Rev. Eric H. Carswell

Reading: Matthew 26:26-30

The night before Jesus was crucified by the people who hated Him, He and His disciples had a special meal. It was the time of year that they celebrated the Passover. They did this to remember how the Lord had saved the children of Israel from slavery long ago.

The disciples thought this meal would be like any of the other Passover meals they had eaten. But something wonderful was going to happen. The Lord was going to start something new, something that is still an important part of our worship today.

At the Passover supper that final night, Jesus took some of the bread that was there. He said a blessing and broke the bread into pieces. Then He handed it to His disciples. As He handed out the bread He said something that must have sounded strange to them. He said that the bread was His body. He wanted the disciples to think of that bread as an important part of His life that He was giving to them.

Then the Lord took a cup of wine and gave it to the disciples, saying that it was His blood. He wanted them to think of the wine as also being an important part of His life that they were being given to drink.

Do you know why we need part of the Lord's life if we are going to be happy and useful? Each of us needs to receive the love of doing good things for other people. Then we will want to help other people. Each of us also needs to learn the Lord's truth. Then we can help other people.

When we want to do what is good and know what is true, the Lord is with us in a very special way. The love and truth that we have then are a special gift of the Lord's life, a gift that He has given us.

Several times a year many adults attend a special church service to remind them of the last supper that the Lord had with His disciples. We call it the Holy Supper. As the people eat a piece of bread and drink a sip of wine, they can remember the gift of life that the Lord wants to give each of us.

The Holy Supper can help people to remember that the Lord is not far away. He has not forgotten us or left us alone. He is always near us, doing His part to lead us to heaven.

Amen.